

CLAIMS:

1. An electronic lock comprising:
 - 5 (a) an elongate cylinder housed within a shell, and rotatable about a longitudinal axis relative to said shell;
 - (b) said cylinder containing an electrically-controlled locking mechanism including a locking member selectively movable
10 alternatively toward engagement with said shell so as to interfere with rotation of said cylinder relative to said shell, or away from engagement with said shell so as to permit said rotation;
 - 15 (c) said cylinder having respective front and rear portions located at different positions along said longitudinal axis;
 - (d) said front portion being engageable with a key so as to enable said key to rotate
20 said front portion relative to said shell, and said rear portion being detachably interconnected with said front portion so as to be rotatable by said key in unison with said front portion; and
 - 25 (e) said rear portion containing said locking member.

2. The lock of claim 1 wherein said electrically-controlled locking mechanism includes a
30 solenoid assembly mounted in said front portion of said cylinder and movable substantially longitudinally of said cylinder selectively toward and away from said locking member.

3. The lock of claim 1 wherein said rear portion of said cylinder has at least a first longitudinally-extending cavity offset transversely from said locking member for matingly receiving at least one elongate throw pin.

4. The lock of claim 3 wherein said rear portion of said cylinder also has a second said longitudinally-extending cavity, said first and second cavities being offset transversely from said locking member on opposite sides thereof.

5. An electronic lock comprising:

- (a) an elongate cylinder housed within a shell, and rotatable about a longitudinal axis relative to said shell;
- (b) said cylinder containing an electrically-controlled locking mechanism including a locking member selectively movable alternatively toward engagement with said shell so as to interfere with rotation of said cylinder relative to said shell, or away from engagement with said shell so as to permit said rotation;
- (c) said cylinder having respective front and rear portions located at different positions along said longitudinal axis;
- (d) said front portion being engageable with a key so as to enable said key to rotate said front portion relative to said shell, and said rear portion being detachably interconnected with said front portion so as to be rotatable by said key in unison with said front portion; and

(e) said front portion and said rear portion having matingly-engageable protrusions detachably interconnecting said front portion and said rear portion so as to be rotatable by said key relative to said shell when said front portion and rear portion are interconnected.

6. The lock of claim 5 wherein said protrusions are located peripherally about said longitudinal axis of said cylinder.

7. The lock of claim 6 wherein said protrusions extend longitudinally of said cylinder.

8. An electronic lock comprising:

(a) an elongate cylinder housed within a shell, and rotatable about a longitudinal axis relative to said shell;

(b) said cylinder containing an electrically-controlled locking mechanism including a locking member selectively movable alternatively toward engagement with said shell so as to interfere with rotation of said cylinder relative to said shell, or away from engagement with said shell so as to permit said rotation;

(c) said cylinder having respective front and rear portions located at different positions along said longitudinal axis;

(d) said front portion being engageable with a key so as to enable said key to rotate said front portion relative to said shell, and said rear portion being detachably interconnected with said front portion so

as to be rotatable by said key in unison
with said front portion; and

- (e) said front portion being formed
principally of a first material, and said
5 rear portion being formed principally of a
second material different from said first
material.

9. The lock of claim 8 wherein said first
10 material is ferromagnetic, and said second material is
nonferromagnetic.

10. The lock of claim 9 wherein said
electrically-controlled locking mechanism includes a
15 solenoid assembly mounted in said front portion of said
cylinder.